

The following represents the core mission of the S.A.F.E. program (Mass. Department of Fire Services):

The Student Awareness of Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) program is a fire prevention education program designed to equip elementary, intermediate, and high school students with skills for recognizing the dangers of fire, specifically, the fire hazards smoking-related materials pose. The program utilizes specially trained firefighters to teach fire and life safety education. Many of the firefighters are trained emergency medical technicians that have seen the catastrophic health effects of smoking-induced illnesses.

The S.A.F.E. educator serves as a role model for impressionable youths while providing students with firsthand knowledge of the dangers associated with fire, smoking-related materials, and the harmful effects of smoking-induced illnesses. The S.A.F.E. educator will play a significant role with regards to the prevention of fire through such efforts as broadening public awareness of fire hazards and the enforcement of state laws, including those that regulate the use, sale, and storage of smoking-related materials.

## Safe Presentation

The Kindergarten S.A.F.E. presentation is designed to target children ages 5 – 6 and is approximately 30 minutes in length. The program covers objectives such as recognizing firefighters as community helpers, reporting, understanding fire hazards, and understanding the importance of crawling to an exit under smoke conditions. Children will learn to recognize household smoke alarms, report to an adult, practice crawling on hands and knees under simulated smoke conditions, understand the concept of “get out, stay out”, and see firefighters as people to go to not hide from. This course covers safety and prevention strands 9.2 and 9.8 and motor skill development strand 2.1. Reference #'s 560-001, 005, 006, 007, 008.

The First grade S.A.F.E. presentation targets children 6 – 7 and is 30 minutes long. This course reinforces the Kindergarten S.A.F.E. presentation by reviewing escape plan behaviors. These include crawling under smoke conditions and reporting unsafe conditions/situations to an adult. A few specific and more complex situations are introduced at this level. The more important of these topics are recognizing the difference between a toy

and a tool, not playing with matches, and understanding candle safety as it applies to holidays and birthdays. Motor skill activities practiced are crawling on hands and knees instead of on the belly and “stop, drop, & roll”. This course covers safety and prevention strands 9.2, 9.8 and motor skill development strand 2.1.

The Second grade S.A.F.E. presentation targets children ages 7 – 8 and is also approximately 30 minutes in length. This course builds on principles introduced in the previous presentations K- 1. Reviewed concepts include “stop, drop, & roll”, crawling under smoke on hands and knees to exits, and reporting behaviors with the addition of 911. This presentation integrates new and reviewed information into an individual escape plan. Each child will be asked to focus on his/her home, taking into consideration that a home can be many things...apartment, house, condominium, etc. Children will learn to identify the rooms in their home, determine an appropriate meeting place for family members during an emergency, feel doors for heat, exit safely, and “get out, stay out”. Students will be encouraged to begin a dialog at home and possibly implement a working escape plan with the help of their caregiver. Safety and prevention/motor skill development strand are covered.